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PMI completes second round of indoor residual spraying in north

Twenty-five teams trained under the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) completed a second round of indoor residual spraying in the northern district of Richard Toll, protecting more than 135,000 people living along the border with Mauritania.

At the end of the six-week campaign, the 105 sprayers treated the walls of 22,070 homes, many of them nestled among rice fields near the banks of the Senegal River.

"Indoor residual spraying is an important part in the campaign to combat malaria, along with insecticide-treated bednets and intermittent malaria treatment of pregnant women," said Dr. Lamine Dièye, the district's chief medical officer.

He added that there had been a "clear reduction" in the number of cases of malaria in his district. "It is something terrific; we should recognize and congratulate it. I call on the entire population to embrace the strategy, not forgetting to consult a medical professional on noticing the first symptom of malaria." Rosso's Mayor, Oumar Sory Diop, urged his entire community to get behind the PMI-funded campaign. "We hope this exercise will succeed, just like the first."

Khady Thiam Gaye's house was the first to be sprayed. Local officials watched as four sprayers covered from head to toe in protective clothing and equipment blasted the walls of her home.



PMI-trained sprayers apply insecticide to the walls of Khady Thiam Gaye's home in Rosso, Senegal, during the second round of indoor residual spraying in northern Senegal's Richard Toll district. Photo: Richard Nyberg, USAID

new collaboration with Peace Corps in Senegal and has tapped into the Peace Corps Volunteers living in the Richard Toll district to help their communities prepare for the spraying campaign.

U.S. development assistance highly recognized in Senegal: USAID poll

Results of a nationwide public opinion poll commissioned by USAID/Senegal indicate that the United States is the bilateral donor most recognized for its development assistance in the West African country. With 53.2% of respondents citing U.S. foreign assistance, the United States edged out France, which received a recognition rate of 52.3%. The Senegal Mission will use poll results to adjust its evolving communications strategy and related outreach activities to target regions where USAID recognition is lowest.



Khady Thiam Gaye, right, is sold on the idea of indoor residual spraying as it drastically reduced the number of malaria cases in her house since 2007. Photo: Richard Nyberg, USAID.

"Nearly everyone in this family of 20 gets malaria regularly," she said as the sprayers finished their work. "But after the first round of spraying last year, we have had only three cases. We would like to thank the American people because we know that this is going to help improve our health and help us lead better

First-round spraying last May to August helped

prevent malaria among nearly 700,000 people in the districts of Nioro, Richard Toll, and Vélingara. PMI has also launched a

USAID/Wula Nafaa program generates \$2.5 million, 1,700 new jobs

USAID/Senegal's agricultural and natural resource management activity, USAID/Wula Nafaa, ended its first phase on May 15, after helping realize a marked increase in local revenues and introducing a newly decentralized management approach to community forestry. The USAID/Wula Nafaa program focused on the areas of biodiversity, natural products commerce and good governance and reforms. At the end of the project, USAID/Wula Nafaa was able to claim an increase of 96% in revenues for 3,598 enterprises operating in the agricultural sectors of the targeted sectors. It generated about \$2.5 million in new revenues in 2007 for rural producers and created 1,700 new jobs.

Additionally, it helped strengthen the legally recognized, community-based, and sustainable natural resources management plans by implementing 20 local conventions covering over 2.7 million hectares and three forest management plans covering 77,000 hectares. "The USAID/Wula Nafaa program has demonstrated that, in spite of limited resources, thanks to sound management practices local communities can be more responsible for the use of their own resources," said USAID/Senegal Mission Director Kevin J. Mullally.



With the support of USAID/Wula Nafaa, rural communities like Dindéfelo in the southern Tambacounda region have been able to multiply their profits many times over for natural products such as the nutritious fonio grain. Photo: Richard Nyberg, USAID

USAID/Wula Nafaa accomplishments

- A 1,129% increase in revenues of 150 charcoal producers.
- A \$3 million increase in exports of natural products.
- 265 tons of laalo mbepp at a value of \$1 million exported to France
- 15,000 tons of cashew nuts valued at \$7.2 million dollars exported, a \$1 million increase from 2006.

USAID/Senegal trains over 7,000 rural health personnel to fight malaria

USAID/Senegal's health program through its implementing partners has trained 7,058 community health workers, community educators, midwives, and health committee members in malaria prevention and treatment at rural health huts in every region of the country. The effort will go a long way to take the bite out of malaria for the Senegalese people ahead of impending seasonal rains. Of the trainees, 2,439 community health workers are now trained and allowed to prescribe highly effective artemisinin-based combination therapy drugs (ACTs) to treat actual cases of malaria or to refer to district health posts severe cases for example, a pregnant woman, an infant younger than six months, or someone with a very high fever. As a result, people can go to one of nearly 1,300 health huts in Senegal where personnel are trained or soon will be trained to offer this service – conveniently close to home. Health educators also receive malaria prevention information that they pass along at group discussions, home visits, community radio shows, social mobilization days, and bednet retreatment events.

PMI trains Senegalese laboratory technicians, donates microscopes

The U.S. Government through the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) has presented the first 29 of 82 state-of-the-art microscopes to senior laboratory technicians trained by PMI and its partners to detect and stop the malaria parasite from claiming more lives all over Senegal.

The district health technicians trained in malaria diagnosis using microscopy will travel home with one microscope plus slides and other essential materials for their laboratories. This is part of a PMI effort to improve the quality of malaria diagnosis by training or giving refresher training to laboratory staff in every district of Senegal. To date, PMI has donated over \$357,000 in microscopes and lab equipment for Senegal's health districts.

"The support provided by the American government is very pertinent," said Dr. Hassane Yaradou, chief technical officer in Senegal's Ministry of Health. "It not only reinforces the knowledge of laboratory technicians but it also provides all of Senegal's districts with microscopes and materials to carry out a biological diagnosis enabling correct treatment." As part of the training, instructors were able to demonstrate key concepts to technicians using a special training microscope. This two-headed microscope permits both the instructor and the trainee to view the same slide at the same time so that the instructor can point parasites out to the trainee in real time.

Anne-Marie Mendy, senior laboratory technician in Kounghoul in central Senegal, said the microscope is "very sophisticated" and easier to use than her previous microscope. "I have learned a lot about parasites in this training session."

Read more about USAID/Senegal: senegal.usaid.gov